

The Alexandria Gazette.

VOLUME LXIV.

ALEXANDRIA, VA. FRIDAY EVENING, MAY 29 1863.

NUMBER 127

PUBLISHED (DAILY) BY
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OFFICE—No. 104 King street, over
Stone's (formerly French's) Book Store.

DEFERRED ITEMS.

On Monday last one of the guards at the Old Capitol prison, shot a prisoner, who died shortly afterwards from the wound thus inflicted. The deceased was named John Hardcastle, and claimed to be a British subject. He had been employed in Richmond, as an inventor of military appliances, for which he had much genius. He persisted in thrusting his person outside of a window of the room in which he was confined, and though ordered to withdraw into the room, he refused to obey, and was fired at.

Several forged drafts signed F. G. Adams, and drawn on Thompson, Bros., New York, were detected yesterday, including one for forty-three hundred dollars, received from Washington. Thompsons say they have seen twenty thousand dollars of forged drafts thus far, coming from Philadelphia, Baltimore, and Washington. They suppose the rogues are now at work elsewhere.

The following prisoners of war were sent to Washington on Wednesday, from Alexandria, and by order of Capt. Todd were confined in the Old Capitol:—Carter Page, Richardson's battery; Richard Moran, 1st Virginia cavalry; John W. Holmes and Wm. Hibbs, of Mosely's men.

The result of the late trial of Col. Puttassy is his incarceration in the Old Capitol Prison, Washington, to which he was committed, by order, yesterday afternoon.

Governor Seymour of N. Y., has signed the act ensuring the grant by the Federal Government of 990,000 acres of Public Land to New York, under the Morrill Act, for seminaries for instruction in the Industrial and Useful Arts. The whole is made over to the People's College, at Havana, Schuyler county, subject to the supervision of the Regents of the University. After the People's College is fully endowed, any surplus will revert to the State, to be used for other seminaries.

At Boston, yesterday "an exciting and demonstrative local military event took place to commemorate the departure of the 54th Massachusetts (negro) regiment for South Carolina. The ranks of the regiment were entirely full. The men were dressed in regular United States uniform, splendidly equipped, headed by a full band of negro musicians. After being reviewed on Boston Common by Governor Andrew, the regiment embarked on the steamer De Malay, which is to sail immediately. The march of the regiment through the city was attended by the most enthusiastic cheers."

On the night of the 24th, an attempt was made to burn Forrest Hall prison, in Georgetown, D. C. Colonel Drew, the officer in charge, had, it appears, an inkling of thing, and detailed a guard to be on the lookout. In due time, the attempt was made and the guard, after allowing the fire to burn sufficiently long, to develop a criminal intent, showed themselves, extinguished the fire, and arrested John W. Martin, Co. H. 18th Pennsylvania cavalry, and some five or six of his accomplices. Charges have been preferred against Martin, and he will be tried by a military commission.

The cargo of the Great Eastern contains two hundred tons of iron plates for the U. S. Government.

FROM VICKSBURG.

Dispatches to the Chicago papers repeat that two of the outer Confederate works were taken on Friday. The Federal loss in the engagement is said to have been severe. On Saturday morning the mortar boats were throwing shells occasionally into the shore batteries. The same dispatches state that Jackson had been destroyed and the Federal forces occupying the place advanced to reinforce Gen. Grant. This is evidently a false report, as, according to previous statements, Gen. Grant only held possession of the place one day, then moving on towards Vicksburg. Southern papers have dispatches from Jackson on Monday last, in which no mention is made of any movement in the immediate vicinity by either the Federals or Confederates. If the Chicago correspondent could get information of the destruction of Jackson, which must have taken place since Monday, if at all, they certainly could have gotten advices from Vicksburg twenty-four hours later. The latest Confederate reports from Vicksburg are up to Sunday morning, at nine o'clock, when heavy firing was heard in the direction of the city, but no reports were heard after that time. The statement that the Federal forces were repulsed several times in their attacks on the defences of the town is reiterated. It is also claimed that Gen. Loring cut his way through at Haines's Bluff, and escaped. The Southern journals base their hopes of successful resistance upon the strong natural position of the town and on expected movement of General Johnson on the rear of the Federal army. Large reinforcements, it is said, are on the way to join him.

Yesterday morning, Mr. Dean counsel for the boy Andrew Hall, claimed as a fugitive from labor by Mr. Duvall, made a proposition to the court to submit the case on written argument. Chief Justice Cartter instructed Mr. Dean to notify Mr. W. S. Coxe, the commissioner appointed by the court, of the fact. The case will accordingly be submitted on Monday morning next.

The driver of the stage between Bladensburg and Washington was arrested yesterday, charged with carrying goods without proper authority. On account of his resistance to the officer of the guard, Captain Todd sent him to the Central Guard-house.

The Hagerstown, Md., Herald says:—"Extensive fires raged in different parts of the South mountain during the past week, destroying a large quantity of timber, bark, &c. The fires, judging from the light, which was distinctly seen in this town, seemed to be south of and near the Black Rock."

The Cincinnati Enquirer of Tuesday says: "We notice a report in the Eastern papers that the wife of Mr. Vallandigham has become insane on account of his arrest. We rejoice to state that this is not true. Her nervous system was shocked for some days, but she has not become insane."

Gerrit Smith, the well-known abolitionist, declared, in his speech before the Union League Convention at Utica, New York, that he would sooner consent that slavery should be restored stronger than ever than that the Union should be given up.

Prentice, of the Louisville Journal, says, referring to Henry Ward Beecher: "We sometimes find a preacher, who knowing that it isn't allowable for his people to go to the play-house, is willing to gratify them by making a play-house of his church." Mr. Prentice has perhaps heard of the response Mr. Park Benjamin, the poet and humorist made to Mr. Beecher, when the latter asked him why he never came over to the "Plymouth Church?" "Why you see the fact iss my dear sir," said Park, "I have conscientious scruples against going to places of public amusement on Sundays."

The Baltimore correspondent of the N. Y. Herald supposes that "Gen. Lee will very soon assume the offensive and move northwards, either to attack Washington or to invade Pennsylvania. He had less than 75,000 troops when he invaded Maryland last September. He will move now with 150,000. His left wing already rests at a point on the Upper Rappahannock, opposite the Sulphur Springs, seven miles southwest of Warrenton, and only fifty miles from Washington. It is supposed to be his intention to move his whole army rapidly towards Centreville and Fairfax, over the Warrenton turnpike, and to move thence either direct on the works on Arlington Heights, or else by way of Vienna to Madildaville, to cross the Potomac at Coon's ford, twelve miles above Washington; then move directly east to Bladensburg, tear up the railroad there, so as to cut off all communication with the North and East, and then to attack Washington from that direction. Or else it is supposed that, making a feint on Washington, he will move really either on Baltimore or at once into Pennsylvania."

The ice speculators in Chicago have succeeded in running the price of ice up in that city to a dollar for a hundred pounds. The butchers and others, who use large quantities, have organized an association, and agree to furnish this now necessary article to all large buyers at 25 cents per hundred, and to families at 50 cents per week.

Capt. Stephen H. Weed is to be made a brigadier general for his services in the battle at Chancellorsville. Though only a captain, he commanded sixty pieces of artillery in that battle, and is considered one of the best artillery officers in the army.

It is not true that Solicitor Whiting of the War department, has yet made any decision concerning the proper construction of the \$300 clause of the conscription act. It is quite certain, however, that his decision, when made, will in no way conflict with that of the Secretary.

An order will shortly be issued pardoning one hundred and fifty deserters convicted by the courts-martial in the Department of Washington.

General Sigel has presented the German Hospital of Philadelphia the sum of \$260, from moneys collected by his friends in behalf of his family, to which it was originally the intention to present a homestead in one of the States of the Union.

The length of the coast of the United States now under blockade, beginning at the city of Alexandria, Virginia, and going down the Potomac river and Chesapeake bay to Cape Henry, and thence continuing along the outer line of the sea coast around the peninsula of Florida, as far as the Rio Grande, is 3,540 statute miles.